1:Stanford U. S-4, 5 1956 AF16 SW China
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746 organized during the busy farming seasons to care for an estimated 850,000 children of agricultural families.[33] In the Southwest Region, many factories were reported to have provided creches to care for the children of working mothers. In a report made in 1953, the total number of creches of this category was given as 77, caring for approximately 4,400 children.[34] For the region as a whole, this number is far too small to be considered adequate.

VI. AID TO FAMILIES OF "MARTYRS" AND SERVICEMEN

729 746 In relief work in Communist China, aid to the families of "martyrs" and servicemen has been regarded with utmost seriousness and has been treated as relief work in the more usual sense. The welfare of the members of the armed forces and their families was specified in Article 25 of the Common Program, one of the earliest documents adopted by the Peking regime. It states: "Dependents of those who have given their lives for the revolution and of members of the revolutionary forces, who are in need, shall receive preferential treatment from the state and from society. The People's Government shall make appropriate arrangements for disabled or

33. New China Daily, April 18, 1953, p. 4.
34. Ibid., May 30, 1953, p. 3.

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746 retired servicemen who have participated in the revolutionary war, providing them with the means of livelihood or with occupation."[35] However, the nationwide campaign did not begin until late in 1950, which indicates that this necessity was caused by the warfare in Korea.[36] On December 11, 1950, the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Peking regime promulgated five sets of regulations relating to compassionate payments. These were provisional regulations governing preferential treatment of families of revolutionary "martyrs" and servicemen; preferential treatment of, and compassionate payments to, disabled servicemen killed in action or upon illness; citations and compassionate payments for revolutionary workers injured or killed; and citations and compassionate payments for members of the People's Militia and laborers in military service injured or killed.[37] The preferential treatment of families of "martyrs" and servicemen included receiving land and farming implements as well as government scholarships for their children, lower prices, discounts from commercial establishments, and so forth. Only in cases of extreme hardship were direct payments given.

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35. The Important Documents of the First Plenary Session of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference, Peking, Foreign LanguagesPress, 1949, p. 10.

36. Relief Work p. 18.

37. New China Monthly, Vol. III, No. 3, Jan. 1951, pp. 516-21.

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746 At the time of the Spring Festival in 1951, 10,000,000 people were rallied to take part in the campaign to honor servicemen and their families, according to a report made by the Department of Civil Affairs of the Southwest China Military and Political Committee. Festivals at the lunar New Year and again on August 1, the Chinese Communist Army Day, have since become annual affairs. Through the Government relief and rehabilitation program, the report claimed, many members of the families of "martyrs" and servicemen and many disabled veterans became local Party leaders, and members of Communist cadres and others were elected as delegates and committeemen to Communist conventions and assemblies. In the county of T'ung-chiang[38] in Szechwan Province, as many as 963 cadres were chosen from among these people in 1953.

The system of substitute-tilling during the absence of responsible family members was promoted in most rural areas in the Southwestern provinces. Among the 7,040 families of "martyrs" and servicemen who lived in the rural districts in the Chungking municipality, 1,431 families were granted substitute tillers to cultivate their lands in 1952. In 71 other counties and municipalities of Szechwan,

38. New China Daily, Feb. 1, 1953, p. 2.

1:Stanford U. S-4, 5 1956 AF16 SW China
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729 746 according to the same report, out of a total of 209,813 families of "martyrs" and servicemen, 80,174 families were granted substitute tillers during 1951. However, the report also mentioned confused management and inadequate enforcement of this system in many places in the Southwest.[39] Apparently, much improvement is to be desired and substitute-tilling may always remain a source of dissatisfaction among the rural population.

In the cities in the Southwest Region as well as in all other regions, the dependents of "martyrs" and servicemen were organized for production and trained for employment. Statistics covering the cities of Chungking, Chengtu, Wanhsien and Nan-ch'ung in Szechwan Province, Kweiyang in Kweichow Province and Kunming in Yunnan Province, showed 102 organized production units involving 2,139 people, and further, that 9,550 people obtained employment through the efforts of the government. In addition, in 22 counties in southern Szechwan Province, 202 units were organized and 3,726 members of servicemen's families engaged in production work. For those who were unable to work (as of June 1952), the regional government appropriated relief payments amounting

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39. Ibid.

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729 to JMP$ 29,409,100,000. About 30 per cent
746 of the dependents of "martyrs" and servicemen
657 received this relief, but later the majority of these dependents were obliged to undertake production work.[40]

[873] Some 3,855 children and minor dependents of "martyrs" and servicemen were given government scholarships and financial aid in the three municipalities of Chungking, Chengtu, and Kweiyang, and 19,371 children and dependents in southern Szechwan were given scholarships, the Communists report.[41]

As a measure of encouragement, the Chinese Communists in June and July 1952 mobilized the populace of the Southwest Region to elect "model dependents" of "martyrs" and servicemen, "model disabled veterans," and "model workers for the protection and betterment of the servicemen's families."[42] Those elected were honored by recognition similar to that afforded "labor heroes" during the Land Reform Movement.

729 In September 1954, there were 67 special
874 schools for disabled veterans on the China Mainland, with a total enrollment of 5,000; from these schools, 10,000 graduates had already

40. Ibid.
41. Ibid.
42. Ibid.

1:Stanford U. S-4, 5 1956 AF16 SW China
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729 874 gone into construction work.[43] Some of these schools are in the Southwest, but the number and their locations are not known. According to their own criticism, expressed in Communist newspapers, Southwestern schools for disabled veterans are few in quantity and poor in quality.[44]

According to a broadcast in January 1955 by the Minister of Internal Affairs of the Peking regime, incomplete statistics from 13 provinces showed more than 60 per cent of the families of "martyrs" and servicemen had become participants in mutual-aid groups and cooperatives and many were elected officials of these organizations. Others were elected as delegates to the People's Congress or village cadres.[45] The People's Daily reported that 382 rehabilitated veterans were elected "labor heroes" in July 1954.

VII. CONCLUSION

746 In almost all documents concerning public welfare and relief in Communist China, the emphasis is on production rather than the alleviation of suffering. In regard to famine relief in the rural areas as well as unemployment relief in the cities, the people are asked to save

43. Relief Work, p. 19.
44. New China Daily, Feb. 1, 1953, p. 2.
45. New China Monthly, No. 2, Feb. 1955, p. 19.